

The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

Vol. XL. No. 6464.

號二十月四年四十八百八千一英

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1884.

日七十月三年申甲

Price, \$24 per Annum.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. AGAR, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E. C. GEORGE STREET & Co., 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GORDON, Leadenhall Street, E. C. HENRY & Co., 37, Watlington Street, E. C. SAMUEL DRAGON & Co., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street. PARIS AND EUROPE.—GALLIES & PRINCE, 36, Rue Lafayette, Paris. NEW YORK.—ANDREW WISE, 21, Park Row. AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GORDON, Melbourne and Sydney. SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco. SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLE & Co., Singapore, C. HENRIKSEN & Co., Manila. CHINA.—MORSE, A. A. DE MELO & Co., Canton, QUELCH & Co., Amoy, WILSON, NICHOLS & Co., Foochow, HEDDER & Co., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Hankow, and KELL & WATSON, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Bank.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, \$5,000,000.
RESERVE FUND, \$2,000,000.
NEW SHARES, \$2,000,000.

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Intimations.

BANK HOLIDAY.

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 6 of 1875, the Undersigned BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business on EASTER MONDAY, the 14th Instant.

For the "Oriental Bank Corporation," J. MELVILLE MATSON, Manager.

For the "Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China," JOHN THURBURN, Manager.

For the "Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China," T. H. WHITEHEAD, Acting Manager.

For the "Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation," T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

For the "Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris," J. ARRANGER, Agent.

Hongkong, April 9, 1884. 626

THE CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

MR. SAMUEL J. GOWER has This Day been appointed SECRETARY to the above Company.

By Order of the Board of Directors, E. R. BELLIOS, Chairman.

Hongkong, April 1, 1884. 608

WANTED—A qualified EUROPEAN or AMERICAN SURGEON to proceed on a voyage in Charge of CHINESE EMIGRANTS.

Apply to VICTORIA DISPENSARY, Hongkong, April 4, 1884. 596

COMPANIA NAVIERA DE FILIPINAS.

CAPITAL, \$500,000.
Divided into 5,000 Shares of \$100 each.

On Allotment \$10 per Share, and the Balance on 30th April, 1884.

PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE.

Chairman: GONZALO TUASON, Esq., (Messrs. J. M. TUASON & Co.)

Vice-Chairman: JULIO HEYMAN, Esq., (Messrs. BARR, SENIOR & Co.)

PEDRO P. TOXAS, Esq., (Messrs. BARR, SENIOR & Co.)

ALBINO GOYENECHEA, Esq., (Messrs. BARR, SENIOR & Co.)

BENITO LEGARDA, Esq., (Messrs. BARR, SENIOR & Co.)

ANGELO WITZ, Esq., (Messrs. BARR, SENIOR & Co.)

JANPER WOOD, Esq., (Messrs. BARR, SENIOR & Co.)

R. CALDER SMITH, Esq., (Messrs. BARR, SENIOR & Co.)

JOHN OGDEN, Esq., (Messrs. BARR, SENIOR & Co.)

GEO. ARMSTRONG, Esq., (Messrs. BARR, SENIOR & Co.)

JOSE JUAN DE YCAZA, Esq., (Messrs. BARR, SENIOR & Co.)

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

General Managers: Messrs. BIRCHALL, ROBINSON & Co.

HEAD OFFICE, MANILA.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

THE above Company has been established at Manila, for the purpose of taking over the Spanish Steamers LUZON, PANAYAS, ESTRELLA, SISONGON, CALABUTAN and BOLENAJO, all of which, with the exception of the BOLENAJO, are now employed in the coasting trade of the Philippine Islands.

The Steamers now running are all in perfect order, having recently been thoroughly overhauled.

After writing off 10 per cent. of the profits for depreciation, and paying 12 per cent. for Insurance, a Dividend of 18 per cent. was paid to the Shareholders in the above mentioned Steamers during the past year, and it is expected that a still more profitable business will result under the influence of larger Capital and consequent additions to the Fleet.

The New Steamer BOLINAJO, built by the AMERICAN SHIP BUILDING COMPANY of Boston, and now on her way out, has been specially constructed to enter the shallow rivers of Dagupan and Capiz, with a carrying capacity of 250 Tons dead-weight, being the only Steamer in the Philippine trade of her capacity and draft.

The Company will take its own risks of Insurance, for which purpose one-fifth of the paid up Capital will be set aside to meet any loss which may arise.

Considering the handsome result obtained during the past year and the good prospects for future trade in Philippine Islands, combined with the possibility of obtaining a Government subvention in the new mail contracts to be offered next year, it is reasonably expected that a still better result will follow.

The responsibility of Shareholders is limited to the nominal amount of their shares.

Application for Shares should be made on the accompanying form, and addressed to the General Managers:—

PHILIPPINE STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

Messrs. BIRCHALL, ROBINSON & Co., MANILA.

DEAR SIRS,

In conformity with the Prospectus of the above Company, I beg to request you to note my application for.....Shares, or any less number, of \$100 each; the first call of \$10 per Share on those allotted to me, will be paid on presentation of the scrip and the remainder on 30th April 1884.

Name and address in full.....

Date.....

Hongkong, April 4, 1884. 595

For Sale.

FOR SALE.

AMERICAN ORGANS—

With from six to eleven stops, at from \$100 to \$160 each, made expressly to withstand the combined heat and moisture of the Hongkong climate.

PIANOS—

By BROADWOOD, COLLARD & COLLARD and CHAPPEL, always in Stock for Sale or Hire.

PIANOS AND ORGANS AND HARMONIUMS—

Repaired and tuned by a Competent Tuner from Messrs. BROADWOOD & SONS, London.

NEW MUSIC—

Received monthly from Messrs. CHAPPEL & Co., London.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, March 13, 1884. 457

SAYLE & Co.

EX 'GLENCOE.'

LADIES', GIRLS' AND BOYS' WHITE AND COLOURED STRAW HATS.

SPECIALITIES

FANCY STRIPED

TENNIS FLANNELS.

VICTORIA EXCHANGE, Hongkong, March 18, 1884. 487

Intimations.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

THE FOURTH and FINAL CALL of £10 Sterling per SHARE on the 20,000 SHARES, NEW ISSUE of this CORPORATION, will fall due on the 31st DECEMBER CURRENT, in London, Calcutta, Bombay, Shanghai and Hongkong.

REGISTERED SHAREHOLDERS entitled to NEW SHARES, are requested to Pay, at the respective OFFICES, the above Call or its equivalent in the Currency of the above-mentioned places.

PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATES are being issued in Exchange for the First Call Receipts, which are to be surrendered to the Bank.

HOLDERS of PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATES, when paying this Call, will please send same to this Office to be endorsed.

The Rate of Exchange for Hongkong is fixed at 5/- 8d. or \$83.93 per Share.

INTEREST at the Rate of 7 per Centum will be charged on Calls unpaid on the 31st DECEMBER.

By Order of the Court of Directors, T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, December 13, 1883. 1121

NOTICE.

C. L. THEVENIN'S WIRE and SPIRIT STENCILS, REMOVED to No. 4, PRINCE'S BUILDING.

Hongkong, March 26, 1884. 542

HOTEL DE L'UNIVERS.

WYNDHAM STREET, HONGKONG.

THE Undersigned begs to notify the Public of Hongkong and the Coast Ports that he will RE-OPEN

THE HOTEL DE L'UNIVERS

on the 1st March.

The whole of the ROOMS have been NEWLY FURNISHED throughout, and there are ROOMS suitable for either MARINE COUPLES or SINGLE PERSONS.

THE TABLE will be supplied with the BEST of the Market, and will be of the VERY BEST BRANDS.

Gentlemen desirous of taking Meals, such as DINNER and SUPPER, can have ALL REQUISITE information by applying to

GEORGE STAINFIELD, Proprietor.

Hongkong, February 28, 1884. 368

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS.

THIS Company now grants passages to and from LONDON via Marseilles, including Continental Railway fares, at the same rate as for the route by sea to London, viz., \$380.

The fare to Marseilles is now similar to that charged to Brindisi or Venice, viz., \$355.

A. McIVER, Superintendent.

Hongkong, March 13, 1884. 455

ROBT. SIM & Co.'s PATENT ANTI-FOULING COMPOSITION

as supplied to Her Majesty's Ships; The P. & O. S. N. Co.; The Japanese Government.

Sole Agent, China, Japan, and Manila, EDWARD GEORGE.

Hongkong, January 31, 1884. 188

Intimations.

WILLIAM DOLAN, SAIL-MAKER & SHIP-CHANDLER, 22, PRINCE CENTRAL.

COTTON DUCKS, HEMP CANVAS, MANILA ROPE, AMERICAN OAKUM, LIFE BOOYS, CORK JACKETS, &c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, May 1, 1882. 256

HOP SHING & Co., ENGINEERS, BOLLER MAKERS, COPPER SMITHS, BRASS & IRON FOUNDERS, &c., WEST POINT IRON WORKS.

HAVING This Day commenced BUSINESS, are ready to undertake Work of the above Descriptions under the Supervision of an Experienced EUROPEAN. Orders executed with the utmost despatch and at moderate terms.

4th September, 1883. 611

For Sale.

NOW ON SALE.

A CHINESE DICTIONARY

IN THE CANTONESE DIALECT, BY DI. E. J. EYTEL.

CROWN OCTAVO, PP. 1018.

HONGKONG, 1877-1883.

Part I. A-K, \$2.50

Part II. K-M, \$2.50

Part III. M-T, \$3.00

Part IV. T-Y, \$3.00

A Reduction of 10 per cent. will be allowed to purchasers of Ten or more copies.

This Standard Work on the Chinese Language, constructed on the basis of Kangxi's Imperial Dictionary, contains all Chinese characters in practical use, and while alphabetically arranged according to the sounds of the oldest dialect of China, the Cantonese, it gives also the Mandarin pronunciation of all characters explained in the book, so that its usefulness is by no means confined to the Cantonese Dialect, but the work is a practically complete Treasury of the whole Written Language of China, ancient and modern, as used all over the Empire, whilst its introductory chapters serve the purpose of a philological guide to the student.

A Supplement, arranged for being bound and used by itself, and containing a List of the Radicals, an Index, and a List of Surnames, will be published and sold separately.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, January 15, 1883. 115

FOR SALE.

JULES MUM & Co.'s CHAMPAGNE.

Quarts \$20 per 1 doz. Cases.

Pints \$21 per 2 doz. "

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

Hongkong, December 20, 1883. 1177

FOR SALE CHEAP.

FIVE Hundred to Six Hundred Tons COKE and COAL TAR, in lots to suit, from one ton upwards.

CHOY CHEW, 230, Praya West.

Hongkong, June 18, 1883. 1270

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, on

TUESDAY,

the 15th April, 1884, at 2 p.m., at his Sales Rooms, Queen's Road,—"A LARGE and VALUABLE INVOICE OF JAPANESE WARE,

comprising:—SABINA, KANDA, IMBARY, KOTO and TORIO VASES, JARS, BOWLS, PLATES, CARD DRESSES, INCENSE BURNERS and ORNAMENTS, ENAMELLED WARE, GOLD and SILVER ISLAD BROSCHES, EMERALD RINGS and IVORY CARVINGS, &c., &c., &c.

TERMS OF SALE.—As customary.

J. M. ARMSTRONG, Auctioneer.

Hongkong, April 8, 1884. 619

FURNITURE SALE.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, at the Residence of M. J. D. STEPHENS, Esq., Rocklands, Robinson Road, on

TUESDAY,

the 22nd Instant, at 2 o'clock p.m., HIS ENGLISH & CHINA-MADE FURNITURE,

comprising:—WALNUT CROQUONNE-COVERED DRAWING-ROOM SUITE, MARBLE-TOP CONSOLE TABLE, MIRRORS, CARPETS, LACE CURTAINS, CROQUONNE, &c. DINING TABLE, CHAIRS, GLASS and CROCKERY WARE, ELECTRO-PLATED WARE, &c. IRON BEDSTEPS, MARIANNE WARDROBE with MIRROR FRONT, MARBLE-TOP WARDROBE and DRESSING TABLE, &c. Also, A Rosewood COTTAGE PIANO, by R. H. LEUNG; and a COLLECTION of choice PLANTS in Pots.

TERMS.—As usual.

Catalogues will be issued, and the Furniture on view the day previous to the Sale.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, April 9, 1884. 632

To Let.

TO BE LET.

A FURNISHED HOUSE in one of the TERRACES.

For Particulars, address "J. D. B., c/o China Mail Office."

Hongkong, March 26, 1884. 547

TO LET.

THE PREMISES now occupied by us, No. 11, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

For further Particulars apply to Messrs. RUSSELL & Co.

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.

Hongkong, August 1, 1883. 220

TO LET.

RETIRES FOR TOMORROW

The only intelligence we have received from Tonquin by the S. S. *Actin*, which arrived yesterday from Haiphong, is that the expedition to Hungien has been delayed owing to the depth of water in the river above Sontal not being sufficient to admit of the passage of the gunboats.

GENERAL MILLOT, the Commander-in-Chief of the expeditionary force in Tonquin, has, says the *Singapore*, been nominated grand officer of the Legion of Honour.

Commandant Cornet and some other officers, who distinguished themselves during the Banninh operations, have been put upon the list for promotion.

We hear that one of the Government torpedo boats, known as No. 20, met with an accident on Thursday last. While returning from a run outside the harbour to test her speed she got into shallow water and ran aground. Her crew succeeded in getting her afloat again without assistance, but not without receiving considerable damage to her propeller, not sufficient however to entirely disable the boat.

A. F. PETERSON, who was charged at the Police Court, this morning, with assaulting a woman with a knuckle-duster may very likely, a fifty cent fine is certainly a mild punishment for an assault with a dangerous weapon. The defendant, but having received considerable provocation, but that can scarcely justify the use of a knuckle-duster, and as he appears to have left the complainant and gone inside the hotel to get the weapon he cannot plead that he used it in self defence.

The American ship *Lee C. Wade*, which arrived at this port a day or two ago, furnishes a rather remarkable report. She left Cardiff on the 30th November—

Dec. 31st, lat. 10.30 S., long. 32.25 W. British bark *St. Hilda*, of Liverpool. He ran down on us, would not let us pass, and tried to run into us, through the ice, half hour being drunk or em. After one half hour of this dangerous work, kept away about two points from my course. At dark the bark was out of sight. Jan. 7th, lat. 22.20 S., long. 22 W., had one man fall overboard and drowned.

If the Captain of one sailing vessel tries during about half an hour to run into another sailing vessel in the piping times of peace, it is, we presume, a fair inference that he is either drunk or demented. The tale is, however, a most extraordinary one, and is worth the attention of the owners of the *St. Hilda*. It is within comprehension that a collision between sailing vessels may accidentally occur, but a deliberate effort on the part of the Captain of a vessel to run down another that he meets on the open sea is a story requiring considerable effort to swallow. We expect the Captain of the *St. Hilda* exhibited a little badness, but we cannot believe he had any criminal intentions.

The value of excisable goods exported from Manila during the month of March last amounted to \$1,356,184, and the duty on them was \$36,711.

The German barque *Provincer* left Manila for Boston on the 24th March. The British barque *Highflyer* left Manila for Liverpool on the 20th March. The British barque *Swift* left Manila for New York on the 20th March. The Spanish barque *Pepita* arrived at Manila from Saigon on the 8th April; 62 days out.

As an instance of unusually quick despatch, says the *Nagasaki* paper of April 9th, we may quote the landing of the S. S. *De Bay*, which vessel arrived at Nagasaki from Hongkong on 10 a.m. on Thursday last, and inside of 27 hours, without working overtime, 2,200 tons of Takamatsu coal were put on board, and she steamed out of the harbour.

The telegraph line between Chinkiang and Hankow is being rapidly pushed forward. Mr. C. C. Johnson, the engineer of the Chinese Telegraph Company, was to leave Shanghai by the *Idemitsu*, taking with him a quantity of cable to superintend the laying of the cable, across the Yangtze, as the land line has been put up for some miles above Wuhan. The cable to cross the river and be landed at Nanking. The *Idemitsu* is also to be employed on this service.—*N. C. D. News.*

The following telegrams are taken from Indian papers—

London, March 22.—Mr. Gladstone is slowly recovering.

Cairo, March 22.—Further despatches from General Gordon, dated March 15th, state that he has rescued the garrison at Halfa, and that he was preparing to attack the Arabs outside Khartoum on 10th.

Cairo, March 23.—Spies report that Osman Digna is still in the neighbourhood of Suakin. The British troops will advance on Wednesday and attempt to surround him. The cavalry have reconnoitred for many miles round Suakin and found all the tribes peaceably disposed.

Cairo, March 23.—Admiral Hewitt, hitherto detained, starts on his mission to Abyssinia next week.

London, March 23.—Sir Lintorn Simmonds has been appointed Governor of Malta.

London, March 23.—Lord Fitzmaurice, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, said that the object of the movement of General Graham's force was to disperse the rebels and reopen the road to Berber by means of friendly tribes.

Cairo, March 23.—The British troops advancing on Tanis have been obliged to halt midway owing to four hundred men of the force being quite prostrated through the intense heat felt during the march. The advance will, however, be resumed tomorrow. Signs of the enemy have been discovered near Tanis. A cavalry reconnaissance was sent on this morning, and had a sharp skirmish with a body of the rebels who eventually were killed and wounded. The exact force of the enemy is not yet known.

KLIEPTOMANIA as a disease is rarely urged nowadays in defence of prisoners convicted of theft; but it might well have been pleaded in the case of Edward Cooke, which was tried at the Westminster Police Court last week. Cooke was accused of stealing silk from the Army and Navy Stores, in the ironmongery department of which he was a counterpane. The assistant manager, who was asked by the magistrate why he had suggested the prisoner, said that on the Thursday night "it was noticed that he was walking with difficulty, and so he ordered him to be searched. This led to the finding of 'five dozen and a half' of silk in the prisoner's pockets. 'No doubt,' added the witness, 'the points of the nails worked through the socks,' which would certainly be sufficient to account for some awkwardness in the thief's gait. The prisoner, who was dressed in a 'white suit'—which was pressed himself—was 'brought in' for a fine, as it was his first offence; but, perhaps for lack of some one to set up special mental disease, he was reluctantly sentenced to a month's hard labour. It might have been sufficient punishment if the detective had been followed the prisoner about for a few hours, without allowing him the opportunity of getting rid of the five dozen and a half of silk, his gilded tortoiseshell. No medicinal anesthetic could have desired a more effectual mode of subduing the flesh.—*St. James's Gazette.*

The *Hong Kong* News of April 1st gives the following account of the doings at Kobe of a foreign burglar, who is said to hail from Hong Kong—Kobe can boast a foreign burglar, and has the further satisfaction of knowing that the gentleman is fast by the heels, and without power of accomplishing more mischief. We are informed that the enterprising individual in question, whose cards are inscribed 'Joseph Portell, Travelling Merchant,' arrived last week from Hong Kong in the steamer *Lydia*, and took up his abode in the Temperance Hall. After a judicious examination of the field of operations, he made his first entry in Japan by plunging into a foreigner, the Kocho, occupied by a foreigner, of a quantity of jewellery. On Sunday night he walked deliberately up stairs at No. 18, and took away a gold watch, several trinkets, clothing, a gold chain, and several trinkets. One of the servants saw him, but at first concluded it was all right, the man being a foreigner. On second thought, however, he told his master, and thus early information reached the police. In a very few moments the 'Travelling Merchant' found himself in custody, and the value and contents were recovered. A watch stolen on the previous occasion has also been discovered, for the fellow handed it over to the steward of the Temperance Hall in payment of his bill, but the other articles taken at the same time are still missing.

An examination of Mr. Portell's luggage resulted in some rather curious discoveries. He had provided himself with a picklock, a clerical suit—while he included a suit of sailor's clothes, and other disguises. There was also a quantity of business cards inscribed as already stated, and drawings of office desks, probably useful for reference. According to Mr. Portell's account of himself the United States can claim the honour of owning him, and consequently he will interview General Stahel, 'General' Portell, as Sir Joseph Porter would say.

Portell was subsequently tried and sentenced to six months' imprisonment in the Kobe municipal goal.

The following paragraphs, published in the *Strait Times*, give fuller particulars regarding the stranding of the steamer *Panay*—

The *Panay*, shortly after daybreak on the 20th Feb., was traversing the Calanman passage when she stranded on a rocky shoal called Dumarang, lying in the Straits of that name at about six miles from a village bearing the same name, in the neighbourhood of the island of Palawan. The disaster occurred, it is to the steamer being out of her course, but to her being drawn to the danger by the strength of the prevailing currents. All the efforts made to free the vessel off from the reef proved fruitless, and the crew and passengers remained on board until it became advisable to abandon her, when they were safely landed and found accommodation at Dumarang. The vessel was also saved. The mail bags in charge of the mate of the *Panay*, were put on board the gunboat *Philippine*, which was despatched to deliver by the Governor of Palawan on receiving information of the disaster, and which, from her starting for Manila on the 4th March, may be expected here to-day or to-morrow. The cargo of the *Panay* is damaged beyond recovery, and the vessel is regarded by the underwriters as a total loss. The crew and passengers were conveyed to Palawan by another gunboat, where they embarked for Manila on board the *Panay*. There was fortunately no accident to life or limb, and the disaster is confined to the loss of a vessel which had been out of service for some time.

Manila, March 12.—We have obtained the following further particulars regarding the wreck of the steamer *Panay*. That vessel sank after a severe and obstinate struggle with the waves, and the passengers were saved by the timely arrival of the gunboat *Philippine*, which was despatched to deliver by the Governor of Palawan on receiving information of the disaster, and which, from her starting for Manila on the 4th March, may be expected here to-day or to-morrow. The cargo of the *Panay* is damaged beyond recovery, and the vessel is regarded by the underwriters as a total loss. The crew and passengers were conveyed to Palawan by another gunboat, where they embarked for Manila on board the *Panay*. There was fortunately no accident to life or limb, and the disaster is confined to the loss of a vessel which had been out of service for some time.

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NOTES FROM THE METROPOLIS.

(From our Correspondent.)
London, March 5th.
The Prince of Wales has made his maiden speech in the House of Lords. It was upon a subject which our future King should have at heart—the homes of his people. He visited two terrible slums near Holborn and gave his experiences through the medium of the Upper House. Notwithstanding the vast number of speeches he has to get through in the course of the year he showed considerable nervousness, and his speech was not remarkable either for length or very clear delivery.

Preparations for the Health Exhibition are rapidly going on. The Board of Trade have certified that the Exhibition is an International Exhibition, and exhibitors therefore, accordingly, participate in the privileges accorded by the Patent, Designs and Trade Marks Act of 1883. The buildings are to be considered as a bonded warehouse during the continuance of the Exhibition. The eight water companies have resolved to exhibit in a pavilion, which is being erected, their appliances for filtration, &c., and they will put up in the grounds a large fountain which will be illuminated at night by electricity.

Beware of touting circulars offering mining shares at a low price. Three pence per share for a 'fitter' in a mine in full working order, on the chance of its turning out to be a 'winner' is the venture. So Mr. Crofts, a draper in Devonshire, seemed to think, but he unfortunately neglected to ascertain whether the mine had all been made, and a few days after he became the happy possessor of 100 shares for £15.6 he was served with a notice to pay 7/6 per share. The broker paid the call, as Mr. Crofts declined to do so, and sued him for the amount, and the jury found for the full amount sued for.

General Booth has carried his convictions too far. At least as far as his pocket is concerned. 'Up and down the City Road' and out the 'Eagle' may not now be so tempting as it was in the times of yore, but the destroying of the value of the Eagle as a public house has cost the 'General' several thousand pounds. His devoted followers will doubtless subscribe this amount for their leader, and the 'General' will carry on the temperance crusade with more fervent zeal than ever.

A pearl is about to be placed in the Art Exhibition at Cardiff. Two years ago a large quantity of oysters came to Merthyr from Grimsby, consigned to a local fishmonger, but as the sale was not rapid enough to clear them off while fresh, several barrels remained on hand, which were sold as manure. In the winter the owner of the garden where the manure was used, noticed something in one of the shells, which eventually was proved to be a pearl valued at £20,000.

The Queen's book came out in a first edition of 10,000 copies. These sold at once, immediately they were offered. The second edition is now being prepared.

People who are fond of music should not forget the *Aureophones*. Song, psalm, or march or dance laid on in your homes. The price is 6s., and all extra music, other than that supplied with the instrument, is sold at 1s. per foot. It is a sort of small hand organ, and is really excellent value.

Hanlan has started for Sydney, but if in anything like his usual form neither Laycock nor any other Australian, even on their own water, has a chance of lowering his victorious colours.

Two to three years back to 'go on the stock exchange' was popularly supposed being despatched to the Governor of Palawan on receiving information of the disaster, and which, from her starting for Manila on the 4th March, may be expected here to-day or to-morrow. The cargo of the *Panay* is damaged beyond recovery, and the vessel is regarded by the underwriters as a total loss. The crew and passengers were conveyed to Palawan by another gunboat, where they embarked for Manila on board the *Panay*. There was fortunately no accident to life or limb, and the disaster is confined to the loss of a vessel which had been out of service for some time.

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sitting subject for an interesting article. He is a Yorkshireman, born in 1831. He did not arrive in London with the proverbial four pence half penny, but £3 was the modest fortune which was in his pocket, when a little later than 1851 he took his first situation in the metropolis. In 1863 Mr. Whiteley, having until then served in various stations, opened a small shop in Westbourne Grove upon a very moderate capital. In two years his employees had increased to eighteen. In four years he greatly developed his premises to enlarge his drapery business. Since then he has added house to house until the present vast pile, covering many acres of ground, facing north, south, east and west bears proud evidence of single-handed enterprise and unceasing energy. Neither does his establishment end here. One whole street save three houses is occupied by 'Whiteley's girls,' to whose well-being Miss Whiteley devotes much care. Many other houses adjoining are similarly occupied. His stables contain nearly three hundred horses. His Manor Farm at Finchley produces vast quantities of hay, vegetables, flowers, dairy produce and butcher's meat. He employs upwards of five thousand hands. His establishment consists of sixty different departments, through which can be secured every article made by the hands of man and every product coming from the earth, the sea and the air. It is well said that neither Caesar, Hannibal, Napoleon, nor Moloch has shown more far-reaching power of organisation than this man. His trade mark is appropriate enough—the two hemispheres. Mr. Whiteley's maxim is to sell at the lowest price and never to be undersold. You can purchase anything from him, from a pin to an elephant, a cradle to a coffin. He will provide a brass band or Punch and Judy Show. It has even been whispered he will provide for his young men presentable partners for hostesses short of dancing men. He has been known to provide a wife and a husband and guests to fill an unrelenting void. It is stated that William Whiteley has never received help or loan from any friend or capitalist, while when money was required to him he has refused to accept it. But one thing has Mr. Whiteley been unfortunate in. He married one of his hands some time back and was lately divorced from her. His straight, determined mouth, his keen, expressive eyes and fine open brow record the steady purpose and keen perception which has raised the obscure Yorkshire lad to his present princely position.

A Bengalee is translating Lord Lytton's 'Rienzi' and some of Mr. Wilkie Collins's books into his native language. Mr. Collins has written to this gentleman stating that he regards the proposal made as one of the highest distinctions of his literary life, and he lays special stress on the advantages which will be gained to native readers in these wholesome works of fiction, in place of the egotisms and uncleanly rubbish so long their only intellectual fare.

The great Augustus Harris has issued an invitation to the families of curates and those of the episcopal denomination who cannot afford to pay for places to witness the Drury Lane pantomime 'Cinderella.' This is a little man, with all the graces of an actor. If I were the son of a poor curate I should not prefer to proclaim my poverty on the house tops. I suppose the great caterer has seen the wisdom of getting the church on his side and this is only one more of his 'puff' advertisements. I was at the pantomime last night. It was the hundredth representation and bouquets were handed round to every lady in stalls, boxes and first dress circle. Orators were very lavishly distributed. Whilst all this was going on below the unfortunate gods in the gallery were very much out of it and once a sonorous voice from the heights exclaimed in touching tones 'Don't forget the poor.'

Notwithstanding the visit of the White Lady, in spite also of his great age, the German Emperor has entirely recovered from his late attack. It is reported that a gipsy was called in at the time of the supposed spectral visitation. She predicted that the old King would live to 100 years, but that his eldest son, Prince William, would be his immediate successor. Gipsy prophecies are thus truly being carried out, and the Emperor's recovery is attributed in a great degree to his renewed spirits at the thought of another fifteen years of this life being his portion.

The wit has been served on Lord Garrahy and his name is being bandied about town with any numbers of stories scarcely creditable attached. The struggle for seats will be something enormous. I have heard many people say they would rather see a drama of real life than a dozen pieces of unreality on the stage, and the life of the judge will be scarcely worth living for weeks before the trial. Miss Fortescue's photographs, which were withdrawn from the shop windows during her brief elevation, are now everywhere. If a pretty face has influence with jurymen, and who shall say it has not, the young actress stands every chance of obtaining acquittal or enable her to either take her own theatre or at any rate be very comfortably off for the remainder of her days. I hear on good authority that the case will not be allowed to come into court. This means that the Cairns side will have to pay and look happy.

A case was before the Lord Mayor last week upon which he acted with well timed leniency. A poor man was brought before him for stealing three loaves of bread. It was clearly shown that the man had long been honest and hard working, but of late had been most unfortunate in getting no work. A wife and three children at home without food led to the theft. His workshop allowed the man to leave the court free, and gave him father and son from the poor box.

Police Intelligence.
(Before E. Macken Esq., Acting Police Magistrate.)
Saturday, April 12.

LABOURER.
An Ayau coolie, was charged with stealing clothing and money to the value of £107, the property of a widow named Le So, on the 31st ult.

Complainant gave evidence to the effect that at 4 p.m. on the 31st ult. she arrived here from Canton, by the steamer *Sio*, laden with her basket containing 77 silver dollars, 221 in notes and some clothing and sundries. Defendant came up and asked her if she wanted a chair. He had a table with the number of a chair in his hand. He took the basket and a bundle and went on ahead, leaving complainant to seek the sign of him. Complainant made a report to the Police and on the 7th inst. was taken to a house in Taijingshan where she saw and identified defendant and some of her clothing, which was found in a cock-loft inhabited by defendant. The money was not found.

Defendant was sentenced to be imprisoned for six weeks with hard labour.

ASSAULT WITH A KNUCKLE-DUSTER.

A. F. Peterson, barman at the National Hotel, Queen's Road West, appeared on a charge of assaulting Patrick Stenson, a seaman, with an iron knuckle-duster on the 10th inst.

Complainant deposed that on the afternoon of the 10th he was outside the National Hotel and asked the defendant to shake hands with him. Defendant refused and a difference arose, each man shouting and using abusive language. Defendant then went into doors and got a knuckle duster and knocked complainant insensible.

Thomas O'Donnell, who accompanied complainant, corroborated his statement, and added that the complainant was a little worse for liquor. Evidence was also given by E. A. Wilson, who was also out side the hotel at the time of the fracas. This witness saw complainant shove the defendant and he thought he struck him in the face and tried to throw him down. He should then, at all events, have had the satisfaction of knowing that the efforts to drag the Bar were at least genuine.

If the *Anding* is to resume operations at Wooming it is quite imperative that they be carried on under efficient supervision, and it does not require the skill of an expert to see that ill regulated attempts, such as those already made to dredge the Bar, can produce no satisfactory results.

The point appears to me of special importance, and should the Chamber decide to take the matter up, I trust it will be able to secure the assistance of some of the representatives who may make to the Foreign Ministers. I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,
ADAM LIND, Agent.

The Chairman continued—When Sir Harry Parkes comes it will not be the earnest wish and plea of the Chamber to bring this subject before him. If Mr. Lind has anything to say on the subject we shall be glad to hear him.

Mr. Lind—I have no formal resolution to make of the subject. I shall be quite satisfied if the members of the Committee express themselves as desiring to bring the subject at an early date before Sir Harry Parkes and the Ministers.

The Chairman—Of course I cannot answer for the new Committee, but I should say they would do so. They will have the request from the members of the Chamber that they will bring the subject before Sir Harry Parkes when he comes here, in as forcible a manner as they can.

Mr. Lind—I will put it in form. I move—That the members of the Chamber hereby request that the incoming Committee shall again bring the question of improving the River Approaches to Shanghai, especially the Wooming Bar, before the Foreign Ministers at Peking, and also to the special notice of Sir Harry Parkes, shortly expected in Shanghai.

Mr. Chairman—Gentlemen, the Committee elected are—Messrs W. Brand, J. J. Holliday, E. H. Laves, C. Juntzen, J. J. Kewick, E. H. Laves, J. G. Purdon, J. M. Ringer, E. C. Youlton and J. M. Young. I do not know whether anyone has any other business to bring forward. The Committee have nothing else to bring before members.

Mr. Young—I should like to know whether it is the feeling of the members that we should have a weekly market report instead of a fortnightly one, modifying the present form and giving statistics more frequently. I think it may be convenient to have weekly statistics issued by the Chamber. I do not wish to make any suggestion, but I will suggest in order to get the feeling of the members of the Chamber. There are generally a number of repetitions of quotations which are more or less uninteresting—duties charged on different kinds of goods, and so on—and, I believe the sale has fallen off considerably in recent years, and that partly accounts for the unfavourable condition of the funds. It might improve the exchequer.

Mr. Howie—I do not think the effect of a weekly circular would be to improve the exchequer. It would cost a great deal more, and I think perhaps a number of subscribers would discontinue it.

The Chairman—Undoubtedly there is that difficulty. It would almost double the cost.

Mr. Young—Well, I suppose it would increase the cost. The question is whether members would not be willing to pay more for it.

The Chairman—We should like to have the views of those here. My own opinion is that it would not be advisable. There has been no sudden falling off; it has been gradual. Many people have their own circulars.

Mr. Young—But there has been a falling off.

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THE CREW OF THE 'NISERO.'

Captain Woodhouse, of the *Nisero*, came to London on the 5th March from Sunderland, and had an audience with Earl Granville at the Foreign Office in the afternoon. The owners of the vessel, Messrs. Pinkney, Stone and Clark, have already laid before the Foreign Secretary an account of the foundering of the *Nisero* and the capture and retention of the crew by the natives. The consideration of the questions connected with the ransom which is demanded for the crew was postponed to a further interview at the Foreign Office held the next day, when Captain Woodhouse and Mr. David Pinkney, representing the owners, attended. Captain Woodhouse says the position of the captives is extremely critical, and he fears that, unless something is speedily done to save them, their lives will be sacrificed. The climate is almost unbearable for Europeans, and he thinks it very probable that some of the men have before this succumbed to sickness. The ransom they received at the hands of the Rajah and people of Tenom was most cruel. The Rajah's conditions for the release of the crew are as follows:—A ransom of £20,000 in money, the banishment of two Rajahs from Sumatra, and the reduction of part of Tenom from the Dutch. If these terms are accepted, he requires guarantee in the name of Queen Victoria that they would be carried out.—*L. & C. Express.*

NEW VESSELS FOR THE U. S. NAVY.

Washington, March 2.—The Senate has been engaged for the week in discussing the bill for the construction of eleven vessels of war for the navy, and on Friday it was passed by a vote of 34 to 19. The passage of this bill and the discussion over it makes a very delicate step upon the part of the navy. It is probable that the bill, without informal amendment, will pass the House. It provides for the following vessels, as recommended by the last Naval Advisory Board: Two steel cruisers of 4,300 and 5,000 tons each, to be dispatched within 12 months from two heavily armed gunboats of 1,500 tons each and two light gunboats of 700 tons each; also, one steel ram, as recommended by the Naval Advisory Board of 1881, and one cruising torpedo boat and two 'barrier' torpedo boats, as recommended by the Board in 1882. All these vessels were recommended in Secretary Chandler's annual report, and are to cost when completed \$4,000,000. The bill requires that the work shall be commenced on all the ships three months after the passage of the bill, and that the construction be signed, and all are to be completed in two years.

Dead Letters.

Annuly, A. 1
Phunko, Dr. P. E. 1
Silva, L. de, p. card 1
Tatham, C. G. 1

The above letters have been returned from various places at which the addresses cannot be found, or have been refused. It is opened within ten days, they will be placed in the hands of the writers.

General Post Office,
Hongkong, 11th April, 1884.

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

AT 4 P.M.—10TH APRIL.

Station.	Barometer reduced to sea level.	Thermometer.	Humidity.	Direction of wind.	Force.	State of sky.	Remarks.
Manila	29.96	81.34	SE	3	b	—	—
Hongkong	29.96	81.34	SE	3	b	—	—
Amoy	29.96	81.34	SE	3	b	—	—
Foochow	29.96	81.34	SE	3	b	—	—
Shanghai	29.96	81.34	SE	3	b	—	—
Nagasaki	29.96	81.34	SE	3	b	—	—
Yokohama	29.96	81.34	SE	3	b	—	—

Hongkong Observatory, April 12, 1884.

AT 10 A.M.—11TH APRIL.

